

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

September 18th, 2016

“So will not we go back
from THEE: quicken us,
and we will call upon
THY NAME.”

PSALM 80:18

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School	10:00 am
Sunday Worship	11:00 am
Wednesday Worship	7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Lindsey Woods - 18th, Eugene Philley - 20th, Amos Luman - 23rd

This evening's featured podcast speaker will be PASTOR TODD NIBERT

DANIEL 5 — THE WRITING ON THE WALL

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

***Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM**

***** SPECIAL MEETINGS *** We're All Invited!**

LINCOLN WOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

FRI, OCTOBER 7TH @ 7:30 PM, SAT, OCTOBER 8TH @ 6:30 PM

PASTOR DAVID PLEDGER & PASTOR TOM HARDING

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

"LET US DRAW NEAR WITH A TRUE HEART IN FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH, HAVING OUR HEARTS SPRINKLED FROM AN EVIL CONSCIENCE, AND OUR BODIES WASHED WITH PURE WATER." (HEBREWS 10:22)

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith" (HEBREWS 10:22). Assurance of salvation and a saving interest in our LORD JESUS is NOT A FEELING cultivated by thinking good thoughts and doing good deeds. Paul calls it "full assurance of faith." It has to do with faith, with BELIEVING GOD! Assurance is born of CONFIDENCE IN THE FATHER as our covenant GOD; "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him." (JOB 13:15) Assurance is born of CONFIDENCE IN THE SON as our just GOD and SAVIOUR; "with His stripes we are healed." (ISAIAH 53:5) Assurance is born of CONFIDENCE IN HIS

PROMISES; Abraham *"being fully persuaded that, what GOD had promised, He was able also to perform."* (ROMANS 4:21) So your assurance of redemption is not enhanced by the *MORE YOU WORK*, but by the *MORE YOU TRUST AND REST IN CHRIST*. *"Let us labor therefore to enter into THAT REST"* (HEBREWS 4:11).

PASTOR **HENRY MAHAN**

WHAT IS A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY?

In this day of big business religion, when churches are measured not by their orthodoxy, but by the opinions of men, when a preacher's success is measured not by his faithfulness, but by the number of names added to the church roll, it might be wise to consider what a successful ministry is according to the measure of Holy Scripture.

ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF GOD THOSE PREACHERS AND CHURCHES ARE SUCCESSFUL WHO ARE FAITHFUL TO THE WORK TO WHICH GOD HAS CALLED THEM. Never in the Old Testament or in the New was a prophet, apostle, or preacher measured by the opinions of men. GOD's servants never courted the favor of men, and were never favored by the majority of the people. The church of GOD has always been out of step with society. The servants of GOD have always been looked upon as peculiar, bigoted dogmatists, intolerant and incapable of compromise. But they were faithful, faithful to GOD, faithful to his truth, and faithful to the souls of men.

Do not be so foolish as to measure GOD's work by man's yardstick. Do not measure the success or failure of preachers and churches by men, by numbers, or by popular opinion. THE ONLY MEASURE OF SUCCESS FOR CHURCHES AND PREACHERS IS FAITHFULNESS (1 CORINTHIANS 4:2). Those who faithfully seek and promote the glory of GOD, who faithfully proclaim the truth of GOD, and who faithfully serve the eternal interests of immortal souls are successful. Those who are not are failures. The one will stand the fire of judgment. The other will not.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (1 CORINTHIANS 3:11-15)

PASTOR **DON FORTNER**

HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH

"...THAT HE MIGHT PRESENT IT TO HIMSELF A GLORIOUS CHURCH, NOT HAVING SPOT, OR WRINKLE, OR ANY SUCH THING; BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH." EPHESIANS 5:25-27

Beloved, believe it and rejoice. Before the throne of GOD you are without spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; for CHRIST gave HIMSELF for you that you *should* and *shall* be, on that day before Him in love, HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH! Oh Lord, I believe it, help me to believe!

REVELATION 7:9-14: *"...I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."*

It almost seemed like our brother John had to be reminded... The elder asked John *"What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?"* and John replied almost as if what he beheld was too wonderful to confirm with his own judgement, but rather committed it to the judgement of the elder by saying *"Sir, thou knowest"* and he said to John *"These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."*

Beloved, it is by the *doing* and *dying* of the LAMB OF GOD, the LORD JESUS CHRIST, that a sinner like me, and a sinner like you are doubly saved by His hand. We are sanctified by His doing — made HOLY by HIS righteousness. The one who knew no sin, the LORD JESUS CHRIST, was made sin for us, *that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.* (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21)

And beloved, we are cleansed by HIS BLOOD—made BLAMELESS by our faithful and justifying SAVIOUR, CHRIST JESUS THE LORD, that our GOD *"...might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."*

In the cross of CHRIST *"Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other."* Oh what a gospel beloved, may the LORD grant us grace to believe it! Lord I believe it, help my unbelief!

"Shew us thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us thy salvation." (PSALM 85) Amen.

PASTOR